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#### MR. TESLA'S LATEST.

transportation lines in the world. tion, especially such frrigation as and of transmitting it without wires to any who desire it.

The inventor says that he will soon ing, and he hopes to cut down the ly he said:

passing through the air between power houses, you can say is an assured fact. All my experiments so far have proved successful and I am devoting all my time now toward getting things on a

"My plans have passed away beyond the merely speculative stage, and in a It is to be most sincerely hope; that very short while will be in thorough Mr. Mead will be given charge of the working order. The whole idea, in a work. nutshell, is simply an extension of the plan to send wireless telegraph mes-

This sounds like very big talk, but, in this day of wonderful inventions and wonderful improvements of old ideas, he is brave indeed who says anything

Perhaps Mr. Tesla has solved the problem of cheap and rapid transpor-tation. If he has he will deserve to panions in the runaway, either. rank among the greatest of the twencentury inventors. Electrical transmission for railroad trains and steamers means, not only speed, but cleanliness and comfort. With ocean- of war in the Philippines? Does anygoing vessels it means a vast saving in space, for the room which is now occupied by coal bunkers can be utilized for some other purpose.

The railroads will be free from the soft coal soot and cinders, and travel will be made more luxurious than ever before. For the sake of the great public it is to be hoped that Mr. Tesla has not overstated the possibilities of his given lots of other people nervous

### ROOSEVELT'S MACHINE.

F MR. ROOSEVELT is not renom be due to any failure on his part to take advantage of every fortuitous circumstance, or to neglect of opportunity to swell the strength of the personal machine he is building up slowly and indication of unofficial announcement from Washington that Mr. Littlefield Maine will be a candidate against Mr. Henderson for the speakership, and that he expects to appear as the administration candidate.

Henderson has been notoriously hostile to the west. He is not at all in sympathy with the president's policy, either at home or abroad, and he is other should be supported by the administration for his place, which virtually gives the control of all legislation, is not surprising. The only element of surprise in the story is that does, not to let him have his way Littlefield should be the man selected by Roosevelt and his advisers. Littlefield has been a conspicuous figure in the last two congresses. His congressional career began with his campaign for B. H. Roberts of this state, hose behalf he made a speech in the house which attracted much attention. Since then he has been as a rule in opposition to his party, and on several occasions in opposition to the

The Chicago Inter Ocean, a staunch Republican journal, does not believe that Littlefield is the administration candidate for speaker, and it suggests that Cannon of Illinois is the only available man with whom to beat Henderson. In this connection it says:

"The inspiration for these announcements about Littlefield does not come from the White House nor from Oyster Bay. It is true that there was a spirit of dissatisfaction with the old leaders of the house during the last session, and that there was much opposition manifest to the present speaker.

"Should there be a change of speaker in the next congress the man who is most likely to be elected is Joseph G. Cannon of Illinois. Mr. Cannon was the real leader of the house in the last session, not by reason of favoritism from the speaker, but because of his own force as a debater and the confidence reposed in him by his party associates on the floor. In every important question that came to the front where there were differences in the party Mr. Cannon took the lead and generally led to victory.

"A great many members have urged Mr. Cannon to announce himself as a candidate for speaker of the next house, but he has declined to enter the

ome a candidate he will easily have the support of a majority of the Re-

publicans in the house. "Some of them go so far as to say hat it is necessary to elect a new speaker in the Fifty-eighth congress ecause of the failures scored by Repesentatives Payne and Dalzell in their efforts to lead the house in the last

"They believe that Mr. Cannon will be forced to come to the front because he is the one man on whom the Re publicans can unite as against Mr. Henderson.

### MR. MEAD THE MAN.

THERE ARE INDICATIONS of jealousy between the agricultural and the interior departments on the quesof national irrigation. Both branches of the government desire to supervise the expenditure of the money provided for at the last session of congress, and it is feared that the preiminary work may be seriously hampered because of this fact.

All friends of irrigation will earnest hope that the promised friction will Speaking for the people who know Elwood Mead, irrigation expert in the agricultural department, NICOLA TESLA believes there is the agricultural department, enough power going to waste in would receive their unanimous enthe air to run all the factories, the dorsement. Mr. Mead is absolutely railroad and steamship and other without a peer in the science of irriga-Moreover, Mr. Tesla declares he has west will require. He has made a life found a method of utilizing this power study of the subject and he knows it thoroughly.

Above and beyond that, Mr. Mead is a thoroughly honest man. There is not be able to run railroad trains at a rate the slightest doubt that any money exof 100 miles an hour without half try- pended under his jurisdiction would be nonestly expended, and that absolutely time between New York and Liverpool no favoritism would be shown in the to about three days. He is not making selection of places to begin operations.

The public any of his plans just now but the time the interior department. public any of his plans just now, but Up to this time the interior department expects to give out a complete an- has had full sway in the matter. While nouncement before very long. Recent- no doubt exists as to the integrity of he said: the interior department officials, it "By means of the current which will cannot be denied that no man in the sent between the different stations department is as well qualified as is I will be able to draw power for almost Mr. Mead to look after irrigation. The any purpose. That we will be able to Herald feels that the question is of get force with which to operate rail- such vital importance to Utah that it roads and steamships from currents cannot refrain from urging the selection of Mr. Mead to take the work in charge.

On the success or failure of the pre liminary plans depends the future of irrigation under national control. The importance, therefore, of having them in charge of a tried expert is obvious.

The Herald notes with pleasure the improvement in the condition of Private Ridgeway Haynes of the Twenty-second battery, who so nearly lost his life while swinging a runaway team away from an infantry company at Fort Douglas, Saturday. The coun try cannot afford to lose such men as Haynes, or such men as his com-

Doesn't it seem rather singular that only one private receives a medal of honor in a period covering two years body doubt that a great many more privates than one are entitled to medals of honor if they had their deserts?

President Schwab of the steel trust is down with an attack of nervous prostration. There is some poetic prostration in his time.

John W. Gates, the well known capitalist, has a good many faults, but he is at least a teller of the truth. The inated for the presidency, it will not other day he said that capitalists generally would like to see labor unio abolished.

Federal Judge Jackson says walking delegates are vampires that fatten on the labors of honest the Rooseveltian machine's progress is about the walking capitalist, judge? But capitalists never walk.

> Dying in England is a mighty expensive luxury. The incications that John W. Mackay's English holdings will be required to pay a death tax of 8 per cent.

It was rather unreasonable in Mrs. Eph Madsen not to get up at 2 o'clock not popular in the house. That an- in the morning to cook a meal for her poor, drunken husband.

> It is a pity, when a man insists that he was whipped, as Mr. Fitzsimmons

UNCROWNED QUEENS

(Philadelphia Times.)
As a rule, most English queens have been solemnly crowned, whether they reigned in their own right or as wives of royal husbands. To this rule, however, there are exceptions. The first was Margaret of France, the young, plain, amiable second wife of Edward He had spent so much money in inquering Wales and in trying to inquer Scotland that he could not afford the expense of a coronation for his girl bride, and she had to do with-

his girl bride, and she had to do without the splendors of the pageant.
King Henry VIII took care that Annie Boleyn should be crowned with extreme magnificence. He desired to
show the world how much he loved her,
and how very much he defied the bishop of Rome. The four wives who succeeded her were never crowned at all.
For one thing, money ran short, and,
for another, there may have lurked,
even in his masterful mind, a sense of
the "fitness of things" which may have
caused him to shrink from publicly caused him to shrink from publicly crowning so many ladies in such very rapid succession. At any rate, the beloved Jane Seymour, the despised Anne of Cleves, the girlish Catharine Howard and the wary Catharine Parr were never consecrated in public as queenconsorts of England.

never consecrated in public as queen-consorts of England. Henrietta Maria, wife of Charles I, refused to be crowned. She was young, she was pretty, she was a French prin-cess, and she declined to take part in a state function which would com her to partake of the sacrament her to partake of the sacrament ac-cording to Church of England rites. Sophia Dorothea of Zeil cannot be reckoned among the number, because she was never called Queen of England at all. While George I was being crowned, and annointed and board crowned, and annointed, and—bored, the lady of Ahlden was pining in her long, monotonous captivity. Caroline

long, monotonous captivity. Caroline of Brunswick is the last, and nost remarkable instance, of the uncrowned English queens.

Though George IV had been forced to the street in the s lists against Speaker Hendersen and iry to take from him the support of his old friends who nominated him the last time by acclamation.

"Some of the strongest Republicans in the house from New England, New York, Pennsylvania and the west have assured Mr. Cannon that if he will be-



The Register. Hans Supp, proprietor of Hotel Raykoff, Sait Mac Arel, an ancient fisherman. Algernon Percayle, temporarily in so-

Joe Lighthead, a social lion. The Sea Serpent, by himself. Carrie A. Payne, a Montana maid who

Tottie Keetap, a summer girl.

Mrs. Terra Belle Noys, in the sm.
Guests, servants, summer boys,

Act I. (On the beach in front of Hotel Raykoff, A chorus of girls in stage bathing suits patter forward, followed by a few meek chorus men. They sing:)

"A bunch of merty maidens we, in costumes very trim
(Of course it's short-trimmed costumes that we mean).
We've just been out upon the beach to have a little swim,
(Of course it was the social swim we mean).

costumes are designed to give a play of action free, course you know the kind of free we mean). (Of co

we mean).

A fact that you can ascertain while stroiling by the sea
(Of course you know now what by 'see'
we mean).

Oh, we have come from town
To get our skins tanned brown.
Each has a warm complexion
That surely is a peach.
For swimming we are dressed,
But, of course, you must have guessed
We den't go near the water, but parade
the beach."

'In days of old, when it is cold, When all is ice and snow,

"In days of old, when it is cold,
When all is ice and snow,
I wait the time when summer's clime
Shall bring to me the dough,
And warble soft and low,
When comes the summer fair,
Folk flock from here and there,
Stop at my place, bright is my face,
Gone is my look of care:
For what care I when bright the sky?
To make a roil I'll try!
So what care I? I'll charge 'em high
And I'll get rich ere I die!"
(Strikes a pose, A disturbance within.
The property man drops a barrelful of
glass into the cellar, while the bass drummer has a fit. Enter two clerks, wearing
are lights on their shirt fronts and dragging Tottie Keetap.)
Supp—What have we here?
Clerk—This damsel, Tottie Keetap, is
abath the board bill, and when I requested her to loosen she went into bankruptcy.
Supp—What have you to say, fair maid?
Tottie—Oh! sir—
Supp—That's what you do—owe, sir; but
cut out all ague effects and tell us. Tot.

Tottle—Oh! sir—
Supp—That's what you do—owe, sir; but
cut out all ague effects and tell us. (Tottie unrolls a parchment ten feet long.)
Tottle—Sec, this first five inches is given up to board and lodging, which I could
easily liquidate, but the other nine feet
and a half are extras that I knew not of. I
didn't know I owed it.
Supp—But you do.
Tottle—Yes, it's due. (Winks at the orchestra, skips forward and sings:)
"On this summer day, with this bill to
pay,"

pay, I am feeling rather blue, For the frisky clerk in a hard night's

Has found that it is due. It gives me a pain. He can dun again,

There was a sarpent with google eyes. He was striped green and brown; Spoke a few words, to my great surprise. And just then the thing went down. Up rose my ringlets of thin gray hair. He says: Twe come to town, Said that tonight he'd again go there. And just then the thing went down.

(Does a hornpipe very shakily.) Supp—So, you see, kind friends, we have a serpent after all, and tonight we shall see him. (Cheers.)

Carrie—I believe I could fall in love with the mysterious monster, for he is the nearest approach to the red devil (tense whisper) whom I am seeking. How does he look?

does he look?

Mac-Like a cable train coming out of the tunnel. He has large green optics and a campaign-orator mouth full of teeth that never were brushed.

Carrie-Oh, joy! Then I know I could love him. When can I see him?

Supp-Tonight at 12. by moonlight.

Joe Lighthead-Before that time I want you all to attend the dinner given by Mrs. Terra Belle Noys to her pet donkey.

Supp-Till then let us be merry.

(Carrie in center, Supp, Mac and principals on either side.)

"Away! Away! to hunt for the serper gay! There's something doing. Sensation's brewing

brewing
To help us pass the day,
Tonight when bright
Will glisten the moon's pure ray
We'll go and seek this wondro
Away! Away"
(Tableau, Curtain.)

Scene 1 (Rection hall of Mrs. Terra Belle Noys. Joe Lighthead and Mrs. Noys lead the smart set in the following lay:)

Just now it is the real thing "Just now it is the real thing
In our very smartest set.
To try some batty little tiling
Which makes a hit, you bet.
The crazier you make it.
Why, the better it will go.
And the eager way they take it.
Just merely goes to show
If it is scand'lous.
It's all the go.
Tho' it is awful
It's swagger, you know,
All weird impropriety
Goes here in smart society.
It may be scand lous, but it is so.'

(Grand cake walk. Enter butler.) Butler-Miss Carrie A. Payne! (A!! lin p. Enter Carrie. Mrs. Noys greet up. Enter Carrie. Mrs. Noys greets her.)

Carrie (pointing at Lighthead)—Is that the little pet that you're honoring?

Mrs. Noys—Oh, no, this is another one. But. come! Let us away to the inspiration pavilion! (Exeunt, singing, "If It's Scand'lous." Enter Algernon and Tottle.) Algernon—Yes, Ootsie, I want you to take my dictation for life, while I'll walk the floor for you. May I slip this ring on? (Does so.)

Tottle—That's the third this summer. Algernon—Now that we have paid off the landlord I think we'd better gather our grips and flee. I can pay the bill, but will have to fall down on tipping the hotel help.

Tottle—The train won't go before midnight. What shall we do?

Algernon—Opera rule: When in doubt sing. (They clinch and sing:)

"Ah, my dolorous girl,
Come now and fly with me.
We have no business
Here by the eastern sea,



But the bill is too, too high,
With extras and such it is really too
much,
And to you I must sadly reply:
I don't know what I owe for,

My coin to the rescue, love,
The proud hotel man calms,
But there are waiters to fee
And I cannot see
Any coin for the outstretched palms.\*

And to you I must sadly reply:
'I don't know what I owe for,
But it's due, due, due,

And I suppose you'd scorn to take an I. O. U.
As to your little bill,
It must go unsettled still,
Tho' I don't know what I owe for,
But you say I do."
(Does a skirt dance to the chorus.)
Supp—Away to the dungeon with her!
Tottle—Will no one save me?
Algernon (entering)—I will! Who wishes to be saved? Fair woman in distress never appealed in vain to Algie Percayle! (Takes off his imitation Panama to the gallery. Tottle turns, starts toward him. Both stop, then gasp:
"Whatchew")
Supp—Did anyone sneeze?
Algernon (grasping Tottle by the wrist and leading her to front)—What are you doing here, and what's wrong?
Tottle—I can't pay my bill.
Algernon—That's serious. Having been squeezed on corn, I can't help you.
Tottle—Lo-host!
Algernon—Hold! An idea. Appeal to the pessir.istic young woman from Montana.
Tottle—What! Carrie A. Payne, the

Tottie-What! Carrie A. Payne, the deep-blue seer?

Algernon-That same. She has nothing but money and it would make her sore to think she didn't have a corner on the world's misery. (Turning to the chorus who have heard nothing:) "Come, let us welcome fair Carrie with a merry rounde lay." (They group around the steps.)

"Good morning, Carrie, Are you still in mourning?
Does your toothbrush sextet
Still make life gay?
Say, look here, Carrie,
Don't you dare get merry
Since you've learned how to make mourning pay?"
(Carrie appears on the porch, followed by the man with the spot-light. She wears blue goggles and carries a bag of Indges. Strolls forward and wearily sings:)

"A morbider young genius never Did in the world exist. By all I'm known From my dismal tone As a brilliant pessimist. Of course, I'm tremendously cle On that point I'm content, But my boasted liver With pain does quiver At thought of merriment. My object all sublime You will perceive in time You will perceive in time
To fill folk up with lime, lime, lime,
To fill folk up with lime.
And having given vent
To my great discontent,
I'll frown upon all merriment,
For that's what Carrie meant!"

(All depart except Supp.)
Supp—The sea serpent is no continuous the time vaudeville inging and dancing. Salt Mac Arel (entering)—Hold on, mansh! No need t' bother public on shi hot daysh. I've sheen shea sherpent. Supp—Joy! Come all! Supp Joy: Come an:
(Enter the chorus, who group around Supp waves to Mac Arel, who waddle forward, hitches em up and bellows:)

While I was sailing my boat this morn, Just at the break of day, saw a sight in the seething sea That filled me with dismay.

arrie.)
Carrie-l've given them the slip and ow it's me to the beach to see if there sanything in this sea-serpent story beare the herd arrives. If it should prove to be the lover I am seeking! Be still, as celebrated liver, be still!" (Dark bases)

to be the lover I am seeking! Be still, my celebrated liver, be still!" (Dark change.)

Scene 2. (The beach by moonlight. The sea serpent prances up and down before a chorus of mermaids and sings:
"Oh. I'm a sort of advertising agent, A deep-sea pageant, a very gry gent. I have been seen from shore, from yachts and steamers.

By smooth 'ad' schemes, likewise pipe dreamers.
The cute hotel man hires me if he's on. That is the reason I come each season, My stunt is not to stop in any place long; Just sing my rag song—away I ping-pong. Swimming, floating up and down the coast.

Making people think they've seen a ghost And, fast or slow, I gayly go.
Writhing, twisting, to and fro.
Jolly old sea serpent from the watery deepths below."

(Strikes a listening attitude. Carrie

(Strikes a listening attitude. Carrie "I'm roaming the seashore. I hope I may

find
Sea serpent, sea serpent, sea serpent.
You've captured the maid with the dole
fulest mind.
Sea serpent, sea serpent, sea serpent.
My gigantic intellect, dandy and fine,
My cold heart awakened to love, all i

Refuse me and I will plunge into the Sea serpent, sea serpent, sea serpent." (Carrie enters singing the last word an meels imploringly.)

Serpent-Do you love me? Carrie-I do.

Carrie-I do.
Serpent-Oh joy! Oh, rapture! Know then, that I am a prince, who was turned into a sea serpent because I couldn't pay my hotel bill and I was doomed to remain thus until some maid with plenty of dollars fell in love with me. Pray, excuse me for a moment for a lightning change.

cuse me for a moment for a lightning change.

(Dives behind a canvas billow. Bobs up, a regular Gibson boy, with joyous garments. He folds Carrie to him.)

Carrie-And so you're a prince? I supposed all foreign noblemen were sharks. Prince-Some of them are lobsters. But ho! hither come the merry villagers.

(Enfer all.)

Supp-Where is our sea serpent? Prince-I am, or rather was, until returned to my proper person by this fair damsel's love. The date is canceled. Supp-But my money! I'll sue you. Prince-Cheer up! Forget it! There'll be another one around soon. Let's be glad that all ends merrily. (All forward.)

"Now our ball of yarn is wound, wound Happy is the end we've found, found, found, Still it won't at all astound, stound.

Soon to find a new serpent hanging round.

Tableau Curtain (Tableau. Curtain.)

FIGHT OVER OIL LANDS.

Syndicate Trying to Oust the Union Pacific Railroad,

Pacific Railroad,
(Washington Special to N. Y. Tribune.)
Washington, July 23.—The interior
department just now is grappling with
one of the hardest questions with
which it has had to deal in a long
time. There are involved in the controversy possibly many millions of
dollars worth of mineral lands, which
are included in the original land grant are included in the original land grant of the Union Pacific railroad, and are principally in Wyoming. Under the plain provisions of the act of congress, which aided by grants of public lands the construction of the transcontinental railroads, all lands which contained valuable minerals were to escheat to the government for entry under the mineral laws. Along a considerable portion of the Union Pacific in Wyoming settlers say they have discovered the water than the control of the property of the control of the rich reservoirs of petroleum that are as valuable as the oil fields now being as valuable as the oif fields now being developed in the region around Beaumont. Tex. These discoveries naturally have led to the organization of powerful syndicates for prospecting and developing the oil fields, and the Union Pacific railroad is claiming prior rights to the property. The syndicates have appealed to the interior department to enforce the mining laws against the railroad company, and oust that corporation from possession of the against the railroad company, and oust that corporation from possession of the land. One of these syndicates is operating under the name of the American Consolidated Oil company, and apparently is taking the lead in the sight against the railroad for the potential wealth involved.

In the absence of Secretary Hitchcock on his summer vacation the subordinate officials of the interior department are unwilling to discuss the case

ordinate officials of the interior department are unwilling to discuss the case in detail, which gives to the subject an interest which perhaps it would not otherwise possess, and envelops it in considerable mystery. All that is vouchsafed on the subject at the department is that one of the most'experienced special agents of the departent, J. W. Zevely, is now in Wyoming carefully investigating the counter claims of the railroad company and the syndicates as to the expany and the syndicates as to the existence of oil lakes and the rights of the railroad corporation in the premises. Until Mr. Zevely's report is forwarded to Washington and approved by the interior department nothing concerning his conclusions will be given out. Assistant Secretary Ryan, however, said today that it was probable that if Mr. Zevely reported against the Union Pacific the lands in dispute, would have to be surrendered. dispute would have to be surrendered by the railroad company and then would fall under the mineral land laws. At the same time, it is realized that the Union Pacific, which, with its allied interests, is one of the most powerful corporations in the country, will not easily surrender its claims, so it is likely that the controversy will find its way into the highest fed-eral courts for settlement.

eral courts for settlement.

Pending a settlement of the dispute, of course, neither party to the controversy will be allowed to medic any use of the property, which means that the big oil syndicales will not be able to proceed with their work of development and exploitation until the United States supreme court has finally passed on the question of title.

FOUR DAYS UNDER GROUND.

Explorer Lost in a Dead Man's Cave. (Chicago Inter Ocean.)

After wandering for four days and four nights underground, half of the time to consult his compass, time in the dark, through winding Day followed day. When a gorges, grawling on hands and knees through slimy passages, between jagged rocks, halting at times on the brink of precipices, faint from hunger and the hardships he was forced to endure, Captain Caleb Johnson, a Mississippi river pilot, has come out alive after an attempt to explore the mysteries of Dead Man's cave at Ste. Genevieve, just across the river from this

But with all of Captain Johnson's ex-But with all of Capitain Johnson's ex-periences the cave remains as much of a mystery as ever, for he was without light for most of his journey and had no idea how far or where he wandered. He only knows that he entered the cave in Simm's hollow, on the bank of the river, on Monday merning, and that on Thursday afternoon a fermer, found Thursday afternoon a farmer found him in a sink hole on his farm, four

miles from the cave entrance.

Nothing was accomplished, therefore, save to take away the superstition that no one could go far into the cave and come out alive. That has always been the reputation of Simple or Dead "And now let us away to the train and hope the engagement will last until we get home." (Excunt, snuggling. Enter Carrie—I've given them the slip and now it's me to the beach to see if there is anything in this sea servent story be-Ste. Genevieve is the oldest town in

Ste. Genevieve is the oldest town in Missouri. It stands on the bank of the Mississippi river or, rather, back of a big sand bar some eighty miles below St. Louis. It is an old French settlement, and a century ago was one of the leading towns of the west. North and south of it, along the river side, are enormous limestone cliffs, cut and seamed by ravines and hollows, covered with forests or with fine wheat lands and settled by a thriving French and German population.

In the hills are countless caves. Some are so small as to be mere hollows or sink holes, but others are of huge proportions. Dead Man's cave is one of these.

Simm's hollow is four miles north of

Simm's hollow is four miles north of the town by a winding road. It is a deep ravine running back from the water's edge a quarter of a mile inte the hills, where it ends abruptly in the bed of a steep run. There is the cave's entrance. The hills on either side of the hollow are nearly 500 feet high. So effectually do they exclude the sun that the ravine is alway gloomy, adding to the sinister asport the cave,

of the cave.

At the end of the ravine is an abrupt wall of rough, stone about fifty feet high, surrounded by a level plateau. This plateau, itself remarkable, is a stone floor semi-circular in shape, having its flat side forward, and for its back having another precipice shaped like the inside of a half cylinder. The walls of this precipice are about 200 feet high.

Well up from the plateau in the center of the cliff is the cave entrance. It is a dark hole in the stone, and is reached by a series of ladders from below. The entrance is about eight feet high and as wide as a double door.

high and as wide as a double door.

Why anyone would wish to enter such a dark, wet place as the cave proves to be is a question which can be only answered by a reference to the endless curiosity of the inhabitants of the world to know what is happening below them. Mines, wells and caves, the most disagreeable places man can get into, prove always fascinating. So the hole in the cliff of Simm's hollow has since its discovery drawn the inhabitants of the neighborhood to enter and explore.

A party of two first went in several years ago. The two men entered the

a party of two mist went in several years ago. The two men entered the hole at early morning carrying candles. They soon came back for torches or lanterns, ropes and chalk. They had gone in so, far that they found it dangerous to go further without blazing their way. They went back into the cave next menning and never since their way. They went back into the cave next morning and never since have they been heard of.

The rescue party which searched for them were stopped by an underground river which none could sound and none could cross. Whether the two men fell into it, whether they crossed it and died on the other side, were questions never answered. There the trail ended and there the search was given up. Not for two or three years was another attempt made to investigate the cave. Then another two men, more venturesome than the townspeople,

strayed into Ste. Genevieve afrom

strayed into Ste. Generice aron a shanty boat, and learning the thadition, set out to solve the mystery. They made several trips and at first had no trouble.

They discovered a spring of water, and a wonderful room full of stalactites such as every limestone cave possesses, and they discovered rooms that tites such as every limestone cave pos-sesses, and they discovered rooms that have been visited a hundred times since by every romantic couple in Ste. Genevieve. Then they went further, and growing familiar with the cave failed to blaze their way. Whither they wandered no man knows, Neither ap-peared again in Ste. Genevieve. Another supposed entrance was found

Another supposed entrance was found in a sinkhole on the Simms place, but when this was explored it led only to

when this was explored it led only to another opening on the river, passing over or under Dead Man's cave, without communication with it.

This was the amount of information placed at the disposal of Captain Johnson when he made his trip into the cavern. He went in equipped with eyerything that a man could carry to make such a trip easy. He had a lantern and a can of oil, a box of matches, plenty of chalk and string, and everything he might need to help and everything he might need to help him find his way back by the route

he entered.

He went in on Monday morning, in spite of the protests of many townspeople, and traveled easily along the well known way until he came to the underground river. This he had de-termined to cross; so, in a canoe, which he had dragged with him, he embarked in the unknown water.

The current was swifter than he had anticipated and bore him so far along that when he got to the opposite shor and at last made a landing, he was out of sight and out of reach of the point at which he had embarked. He tied his canoe, as he thought, securely and began to seek a way farther inthe depths. He found one easily enough and went a long way in without find

ing anything remarkable. Then, thinking it was time to return, he made his way back to the river.

The landing he found easily enough, but not the boat. The swift current had torn it away. Then, indeed, the captain was in a plight. He endeavored to find a way to cross the river, and by keeping in mind that it was on his right, he made his way up stream and continually approached it, but without success, so far as crossing was concerned.

Thinking that the river must lead to the Mississippi, he then started to fol-low it down stream; but in doing this

low it down stream; but in doing this he lost his way, became confused and was never able to retrace his steps to the flowing water.

That must have been late on Monday night. On Tuesday a searching party began to hunt for him, but could not cross the river. When at last a boat was dragged in, the captain's canoe was found far down the river. It was believed that he had fallen in and had been drawn under. There was nothing to show where he could have left the stream, and so the search was abandoned.

Meanwhile, the captain, retaining his presence of mind, put himself on the

presence of mind, put himself on the shortest of rations, and, exploring according to rule, made his way by degrees carefully through passage after passage, always trying to work westward. Knowing that the river was between him and the entrance, he hoped that by following the westward way. that by following the westward way, according to a little compass on his watch chain, he would be able to come to the limit of the hills and find another

opening.

His oil gave out on Monday night.

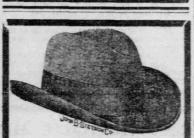
After that he went in darkness, saving
his matches to enable him from time to Day followed day. When at last he had given up hope of rescue, he suddenly came to a turn and saw ahead a glimmer of daylight. Crawling down a narrow passage, he emerged into the open air and lay, faint and helpless from exhaustion, and blinded by the daylight, four miles from the cave entrance. There he was found by the farmer an hour or two afterward. There are none here anxious to ex-

plore Dead Man's cave, and any who wish to try will receive scant encour-agement from the cautious people of Ste. Genevieve.

## **The** Habit

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